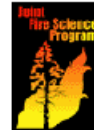


Alaska Fire Science Consortium

Consortium Partners



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Sarah F. Trainor
Geography, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Jennifer Northway
Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management



Joint Fire Science Program Board Visit September 1, 2010

Consortium

- “A group of individuals or companies formed to undertake an enterprise or activity that would be beyond the capabilities of the individual members.” <http://www.investorwords.com/1049/consortium.html>
- Partnership!





Joint Fire Science Program

Research Supporting Sound Decisions

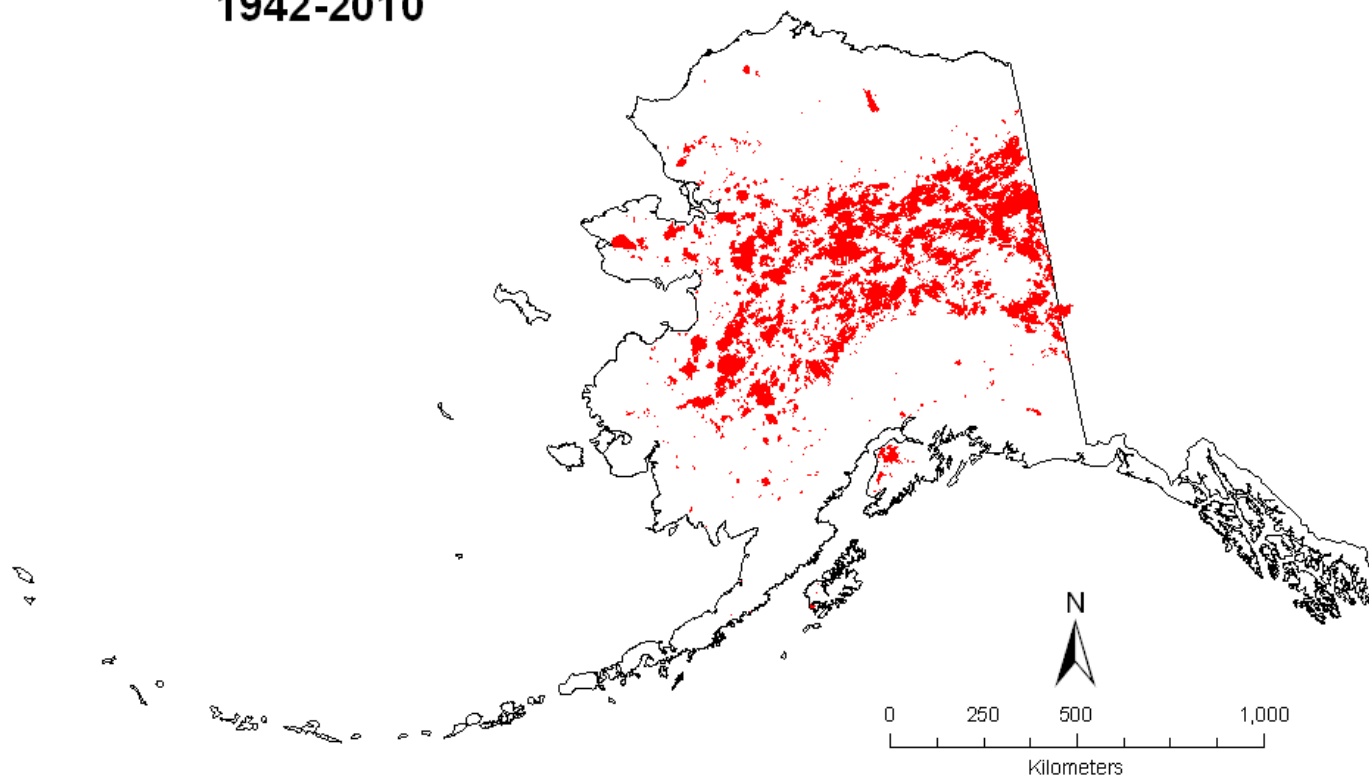
www.firescience.gov





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Alaska Fire History 1942-2010



Regional Science Delivery Consortia

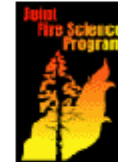


- Inclusive
- Impartial
- End user driven
- Collaborative
- Innovative
- Facilitative

Goal – To enhance the delivery and adoption of fire science findings by developing a national network of regional partnerships

Goals of Alaska Consortium

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- 1) Coordinate current science delivery efforts;
- 2) Create a formal outreach mechanism for two-way communication between fire scientists and diverse fire and land managers;
- 3) Provide an organized, centralized arena for effectively delivering available fire science information to fire managers;
- 4) Work with fire managers in an on-going forum to ensure that the science delivery and outreach mechanisms are both practical and readily implemented in the field.



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Alaska Team Members

Core Team:

- Coordinator - Jen Northway, BLM - AFS
- Federal Cooperator – Kato Howard, BLM - AFS
- AWFCG - Fire Research Development & Applications (Jennifer Barnes, NPS)
- AWFCG - Education and Prevention (Morgan Warthin, NPS ; Jennifer Collins, AFD)
- AWFCG - Fuels (Kato Howard, BLM-AFS)
- BLM – AFS – Eric Miller, Mary Lynch
- BLM Lands – Eric Geisler
- FWS – Lisa Saperstein
- NPS - Jennifer Mitchell
- UAF – Sarah Trainor, Scott Rupp
- University of Idaho/ FRAMES – Diana Olson



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Links with the AWFCG Research Development & Applications Committee

- AWFCG Fire Research Needs List
 - Venue for disseminating list
 - Provide input/review research topics & format
- One point of contact for agency projects & activities
- Feedback mechanism for fire science research, applications & products
- Others?



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Links with the AWFCG Education and Prevention Committee

- Science Communication - Messaging Expertise
 - Proof-read fact sheets and newsletter
 - Feedback and suggestions on Consortium activities
- Consortium materials at events
 - AFE booth
 - Seasonal open houses
- Others?



Photo of firefighter courtesy of Scott Rupp (left). Wildfire in 1999 on Kenai Peninsula, Alaska in an area hit hard by bark beetle infestation courtesy of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (center). Crown fire ariel photo courtesy of Paul Duffy (right).

Improving Seasonal Fire Predictions and Information Services in Alaska for Regional and National Fire Resource Planning

Project:	Improving Seasonal Fire Predictions and Information Services in Alaska for Regional and National Fire Resource Planning
Partners:	Neptune and Company and the Climate Assessment for the Southwest (CLIMAS)
Primary Scientists:	Paul Duffy (Neptune and Company), Daniel Ferguson (CLIMAS), and Sarah Trainor (ACCAP)
Funded by:	National Integrated Drought Information System and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Regional Integrated Science and Assessment (RISA) program

- [Overview of the Project](#)
- [Methods](#)
- [References](#)

http://www.uaf.edu/accap/research/season_fire_prediction.htm

Experimental Forecast of Area Burned for Interior Alaska



- **Low** (less than 500,000 acres)
- **Moderate** (between 500,000 and 1,500,000 acres)
- **High** (greater than 1,500,000 acres)

Median Forecast for the 2010 season is 1,570,000 acres (High) as of the end of May.

1,068,705 acres have burned as of August 19th

<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/sitreport/current.pdf>

- There is a 5% chance that less than 500,000 acres will burn.
- There is a 40% chance that between 500,000 and 1,500,000 acres will burn.
- There is a 55% chance that more than 1,500,000 acres will burn.

The next 2010 forecast will be available in early July.





Mendenhall Lake in the Tongass National Forest (left) courtesy of the [US Forest Service](#). Forested Communities of Alaska Map (middle) courtesy of [Scenarios Network for Alaska Planning](#). Click [here](#) to view the larger image. Spruce Beetle infested forest (right) courtesy of [UAF Cooperative Extension Service](#).

Assessing Climate Change Impacts on Forested Ecosystems of Alaska

Project:	Assessing Climate Change Impacts on Forested Ecosystems of Alaska
Partners:	USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station , Scenarios Network for Alaska Planning
Primary Scientists:	Teresa Hollingsworth (USFS), T. Scott Rupp (SNAP, UAF), Sarah Trainor (ACCAP/SNAP, UAF)
Funded by:	U.S. Forest Service

- [Project Description](#)
- [Stakeholder Workshop](#)
- [Resources](#)

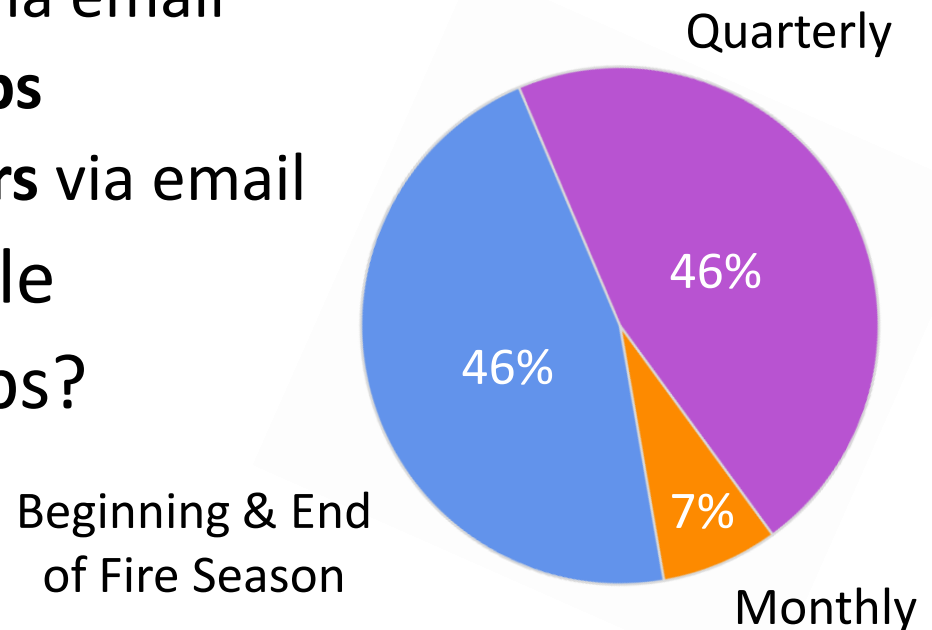
Summary of Fire Science Delivery & Tech Transfer Workshop Oct. 2009

- **SUCCESS!!** Over 60 participants from 10 different organizations
 - BIA
 - TCC
 - NPS
 - FWS
 - BLM
 - AK DOF
 - UAF
 - U of Idaho
 - US Army
 - Chugachmuit
- 2 Research Presentations
- Open discussion on communication of fire science information



Summary of Technology Transfer Survey Results

- Survey Responses = 41; 20 Questions
- Web Media #1 place for fire information
- Top 3 ways to distribute research results
 1. 1 page **fact sheets** via email
 2. In-person **workshops**
 3. 4-6 page **newsletters** via email
- How often would people participate in workshops?



Summary of Consortium Workshop Evaluation

- 25 participants responded
- Positive elements:
 - Timing with Fall Fire Review
 - Open discussion & information sharing with diverse audience.
 - Latest AK research results with managers perspective
- Suggestions:
 - Panel discussions with managers and researchers
 - Smaller breakout sessions
 - Tailor presentations to audience – more application



National Consortium Evaluation Project - Update

- Teleconference with reps from consortia 8/10
- National e-survey under development by Loretta Singletary, Bill Evans and team
 - IRB approval
 - Steelman and Trainor to provide feedback/input
- Agenda item on next PI telecon – 9/7
- Challenges to coordinate among diversity in regions
- Aiming to create evaluation tips guide-sheet for the consortia



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Plans & Activities

- Conduct annual, in-person Alaska-wide **workshop** for fire science delivery and outreach
- Create one-page **fact sheets** summarizing fire research
- Establish and sustain a periodic Alaska fire science **newsletter**
- Conduct annual on-site **field workshops**
- Institutionalize a fire science **teleconference/webinar series**
- Create **centralized point-person** for fire science delivery in Alaska
- Update and **coordinate** existing fire science delivery products
- Participate in the development of innovative fire science delivery **tools**



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Immediate Actions

- Fact sheets and MP4 recordings from research presentations today!
- Core group meeting
- Write charter
- Compose steering committee
- Work with Jennifer on mast-head, templates, etc.
- Create logo
- Organize annual workshop – in conjunction with FFR

Thank You!

Sarah Trainor

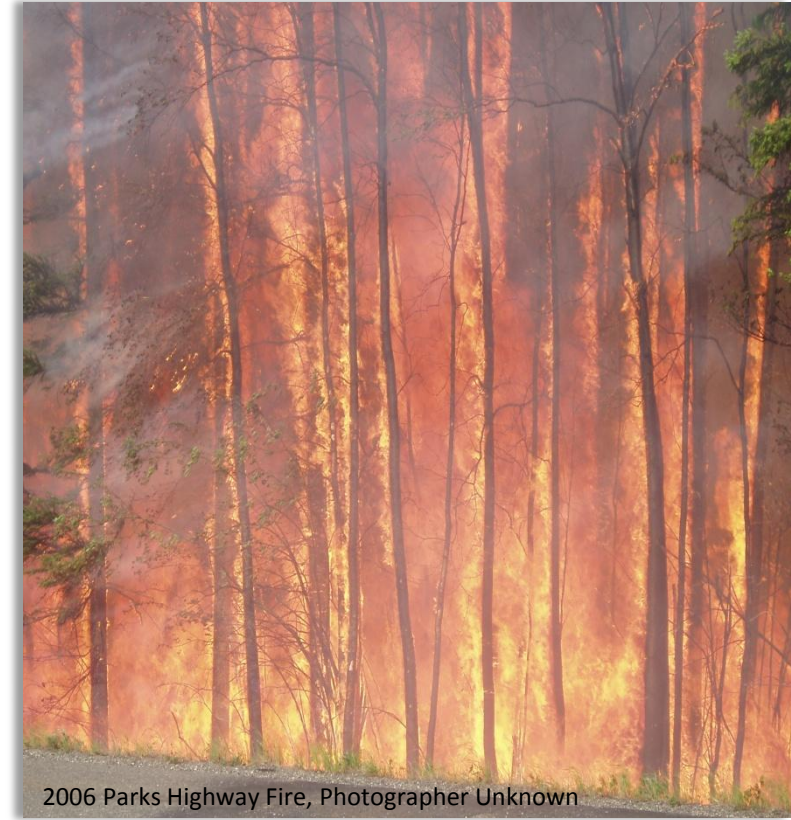
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2006 Parks Highway Fire, Photographer Unknown